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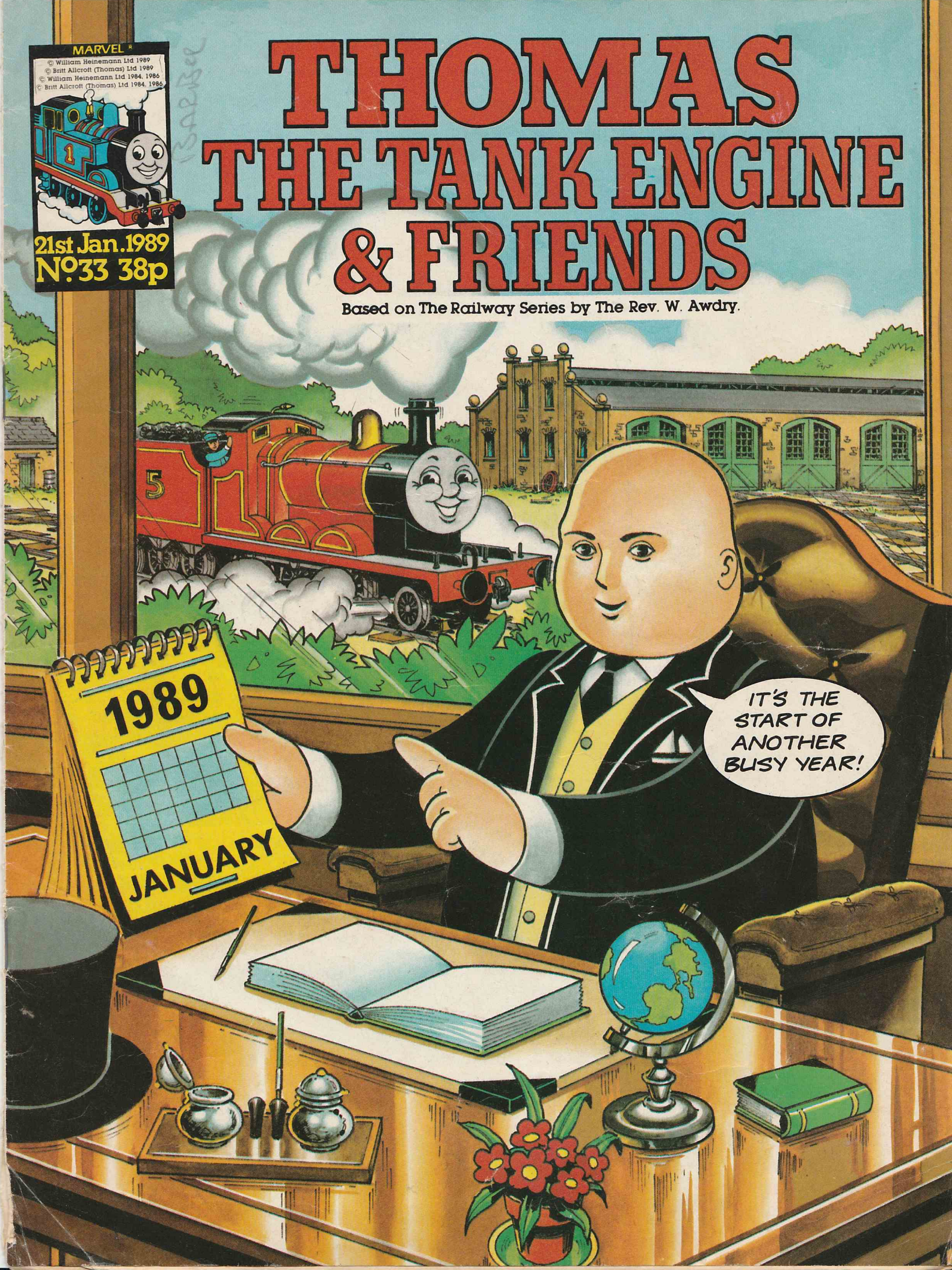
MARVEL

21st Jan. 1989
No. 33 38p

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on The Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.



THE THOMAS CLUB PAGE

Peep! Peep! Who is the biggest and proudest of the Fat Controller's engines? Yes, it's Gordon – and in the story beginning on the next page you can read about the day he was even bossier than usual.

Who is a splendid, red engine? Yes, it's James! His story begins on page 17 – read how he was taught a lesson after boasting in the shed to the other engines.

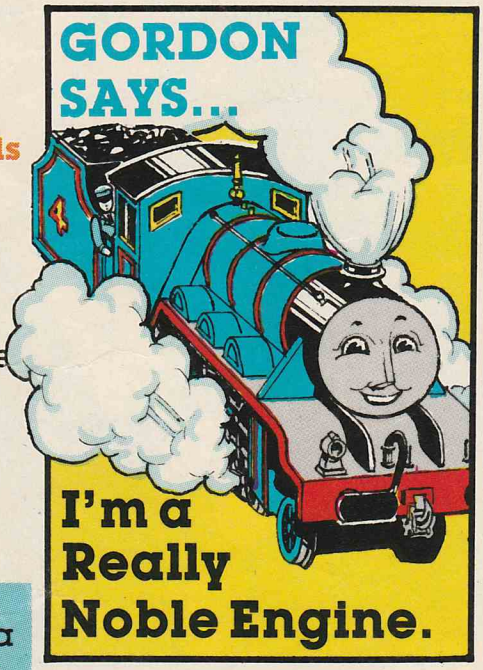
TO YOUR DOOR!

Take out a year's subscription to **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** and every issue will be sent straight to your home! You will also be sent a very special **Thomas Pack** and become a member of the **Thomas Club** automatically. Details are on page **7!**

MEMBERSHIP CARDS!

If you'd like to join our club without taking out a year's subscription, here is what to do: collect **three** tokens like the one below. Send one **red**, one **yellow** and one **green** one, together with a stamped, addressed envelope, to: *Thomas Membership Cards, Marvel Comics, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2*. You will be sent your own membership card and number!

Please allow 28 days for delivery.



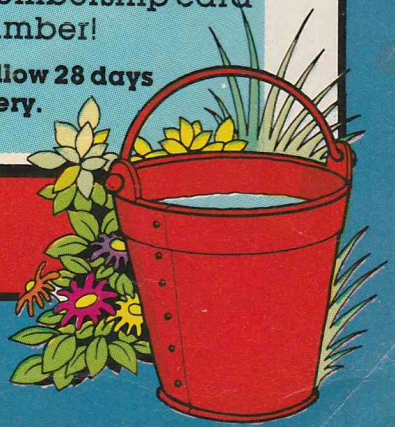
TIME FOR A REST!

If you turn to our centre pages, you will see that the engines are having a rest. They will make a brand new start in a new mural beginning in **issue 38**. In our next issue you will find the start of a **splendid Thomas board game!**

THOMAS ON TV!

Don't miss the adventures of Thomas and his friends on television – every Monday afternoon on **ITV!**

THOMAS TOKEN



In our next issue: Thomas makes friends with the nuns!

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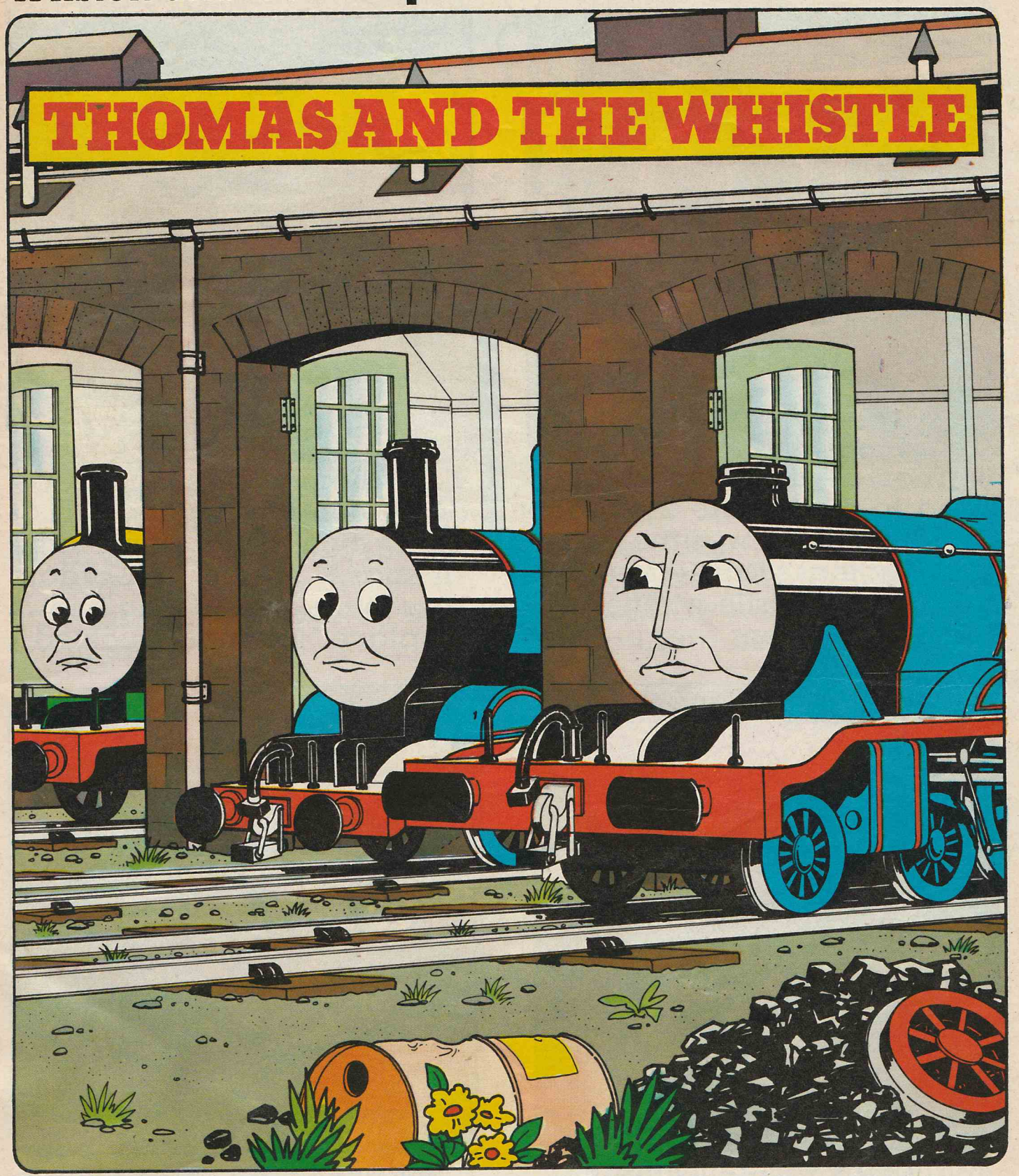
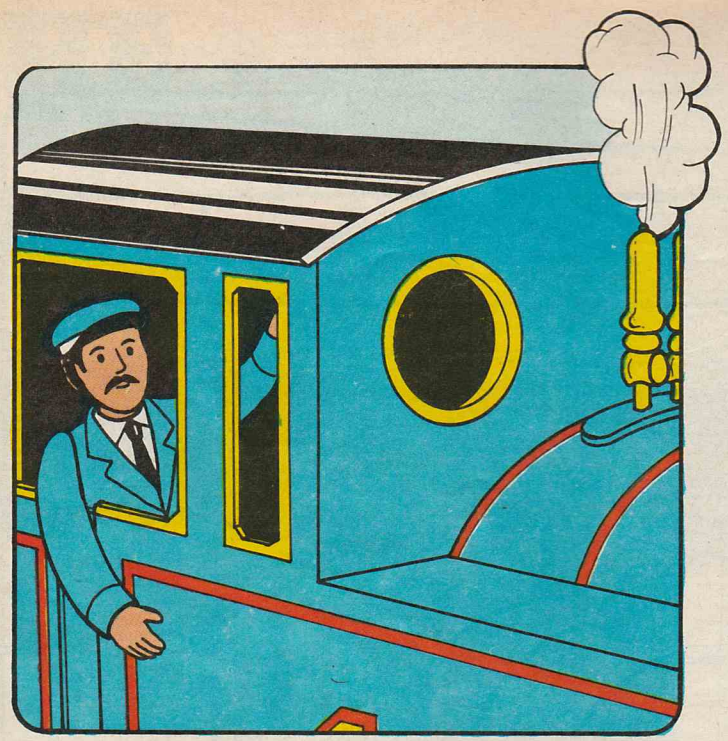
A listen and look story!

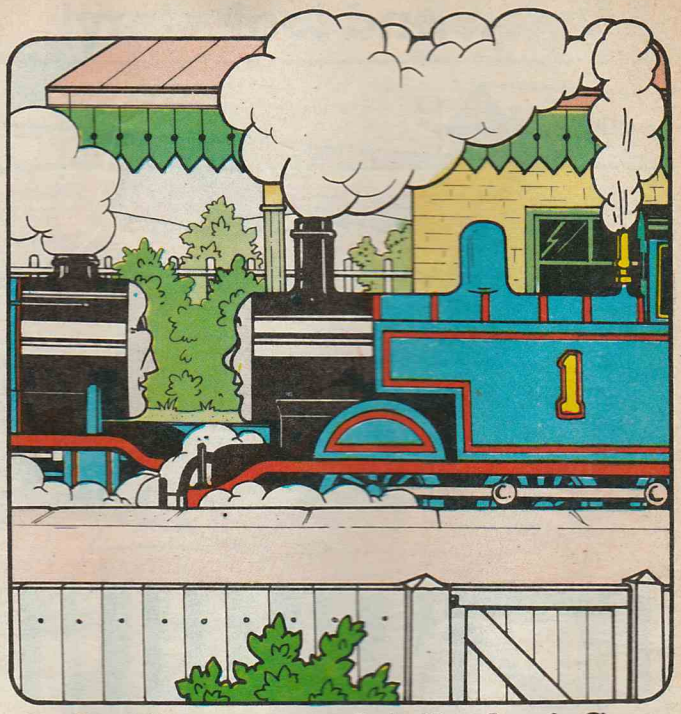


1. Gordon was being bossy again. "The small trains should treat me with respect," he said. He told Thomas, Percy and Edward to **whistle** whenever they saw him.

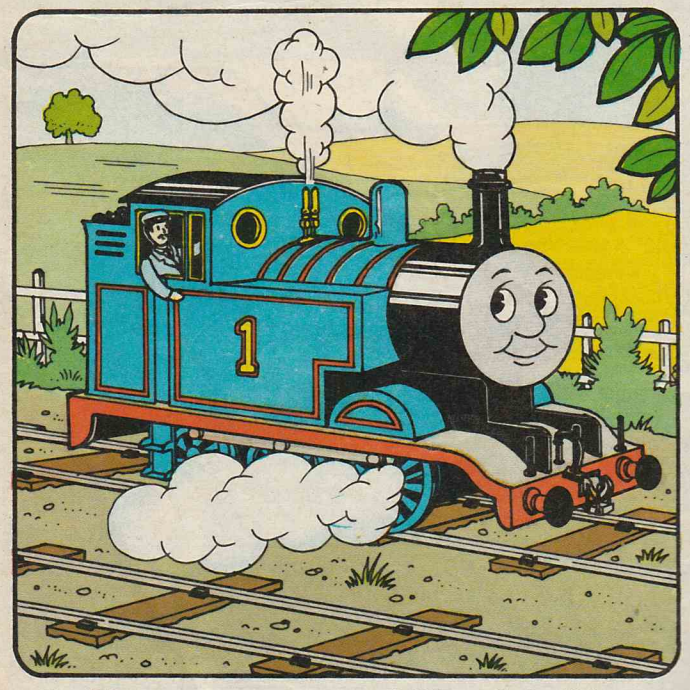
2. "Not likely!," said Percy, crossly. "Whoever does Gordon think he is?" But Gordon complained so much, the trains agreed to whistle at him, after all.



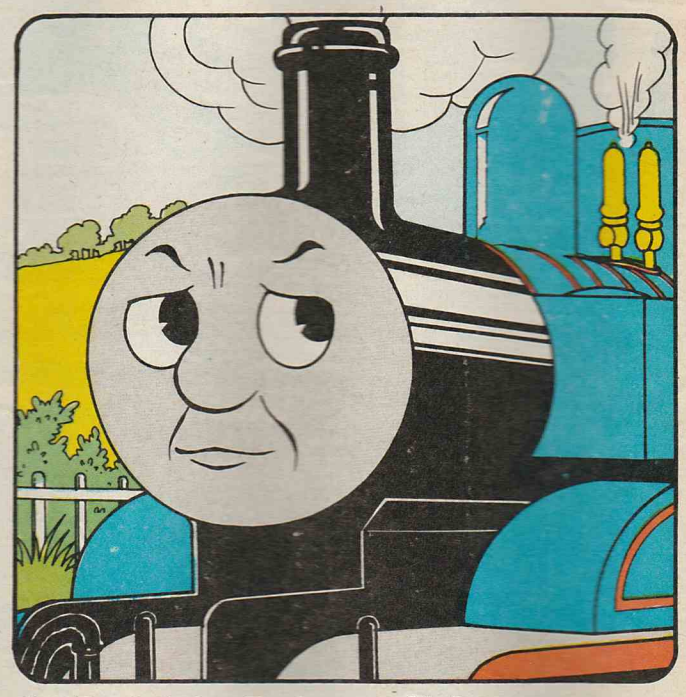
3. Thomas didn't mind. He liked to whistle. He thought that his whistle was the very best. Thomas's Driver agreed to pull his whistle whenever they saw Gordon.



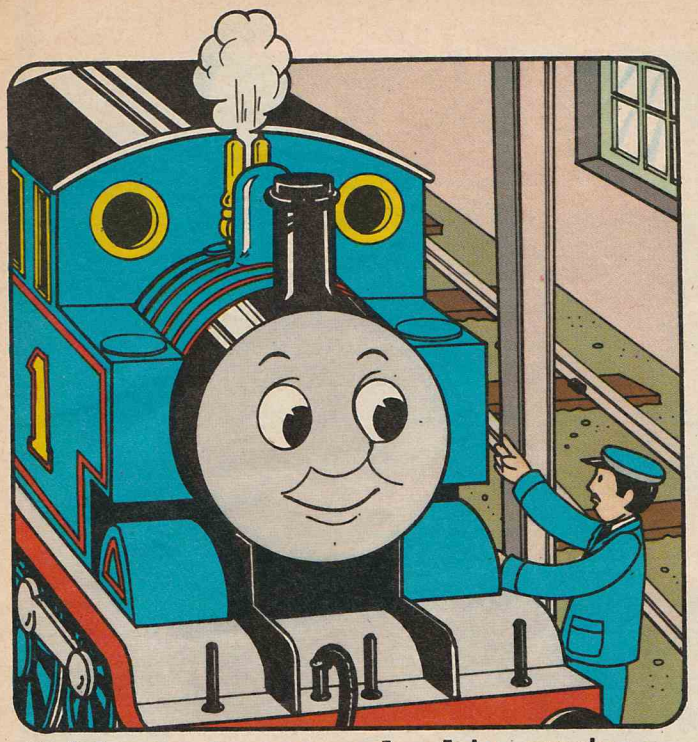
4. So Thomas whistled at Gordon when they pulled out of the station. "Well done, little Thomas," said Gordon. "You're an engine who knows his place." Thomas chuckled.



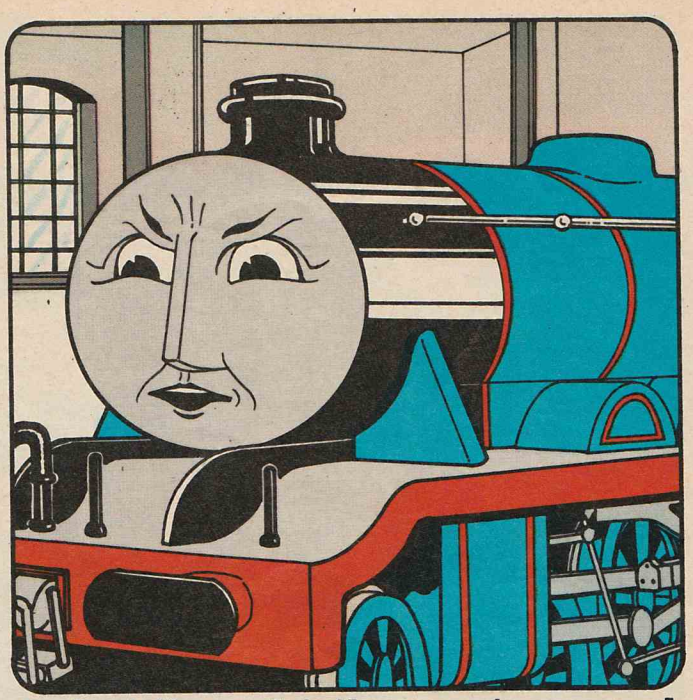
5. Thomas was still whistling as he puffed along his branch line. "Your whistle is rather stiff," said his Driver. "It is becoming difficult to make it stop!"



6. But his Driver did manage to stop the whistle. And whenever Thomas saw Gordon, he would whistle. But each time his whistle would stick. "Bless my buffers," said Thomas.

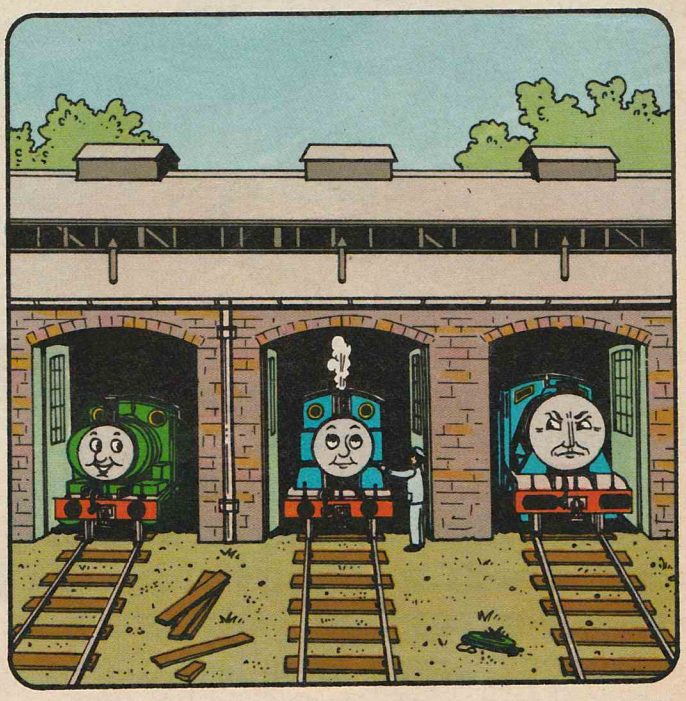


7. Thomas was glad to arrive back at the station. "I'm worn out," he said. His Driver pulled his whistle to test it one last time, before he left to go home.

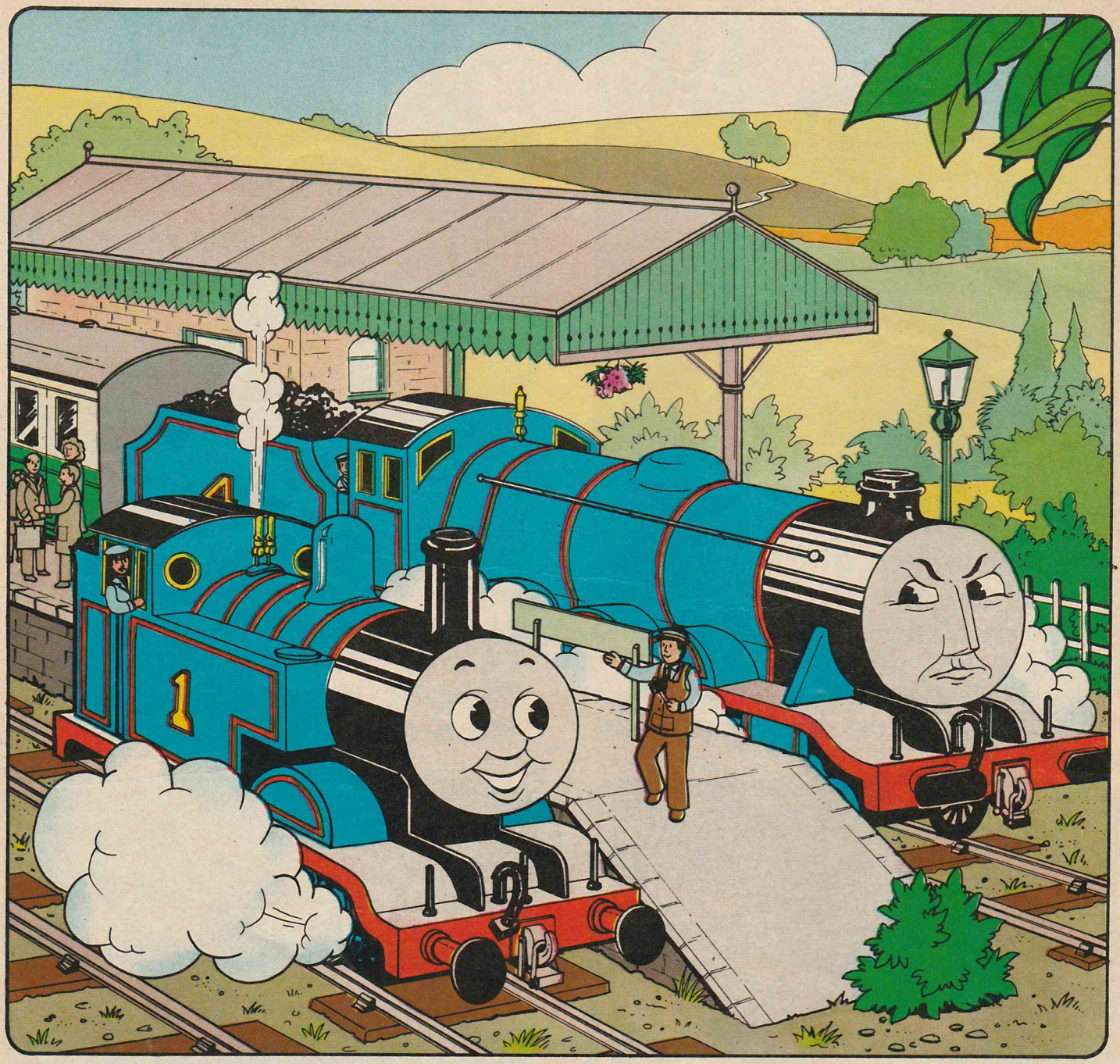


8. But the whistle went on and on. "It's stuck good and proper this time," said his Guard. Then Gordon thought Thomas was being cheeky. "Stop that!" he shouted.

9. "I can't!" cried Thomas. "Your whistle needs a good hard knock," said another driver, running up. "I'll fetch a workman to fix it." But the workmen had gone home.



10. "You'll have to wait until tomorrow, Thomas," said his driver. "But we'll keep your fire stoked up." Percy thought it was all very funny. "Gordon won't like this," he chuckled.



11. Thomas's whistle kept going most of the night. Gordon could not get any sleep. "All that whistling is keeping me awake," he grumbled. "I have a very busy day tomorrow." Thomas was fed up with Gordon's moaning. "Well, you did want me to whistle every time I saw you," he said. Gordon wished he had not been so bossy before.

12. It was a long time before Thomas's whistle began to grow quieter. In the morning a workman came up to Thomas with a tool bag. He gave the whistle a good, hard knock. "It's stopped," cheered Thomas. "About time," said a tired Gordon. "I never ever want to hear you whistle again." Thomas smiled cheek ily. "Peep Peep!" he said.

THE END

More fun on the line in our next issue!

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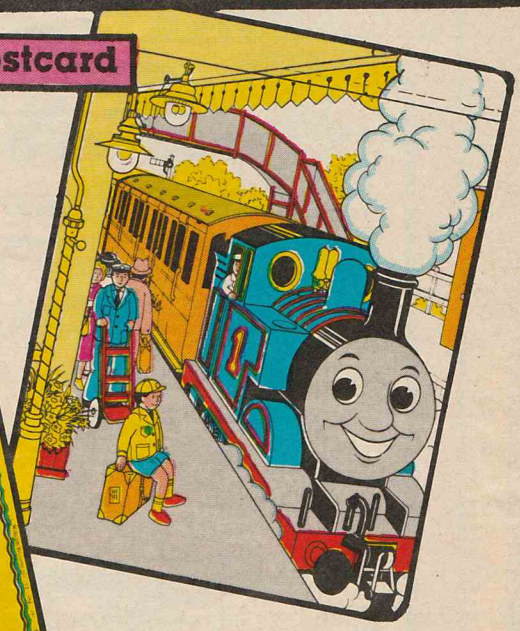
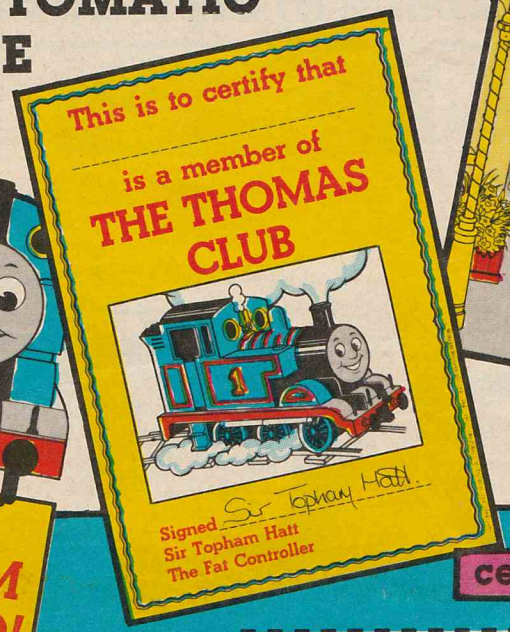
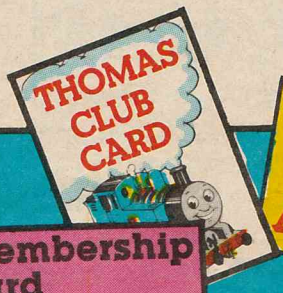


postcard



certificate



membership card

door hanger

It costs just **£9.75** to be sent a total of **26 issues** of **Thomas the Tank engine & Friends** – and this includes postage and packing. You will also receive our very special subscriber's **pack** (above). Just fill in the form and send it, together with a cheque or postal order for £9.75 to: *Marvel Comics Ltd, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.*

I should like to subscribe to **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** and understand I will receive 26 issues by post. I enclose a cheque/postal order for **£9.75** to include postage and packing. Please enrol me as an immediate member or the **Thomas club** if I do not already belong!

Name.....

Age..... **Birthday**.....

Address.....

.....

My favourite part of Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends magazine is.....

.....

Signature of parent/guardian.....

.....

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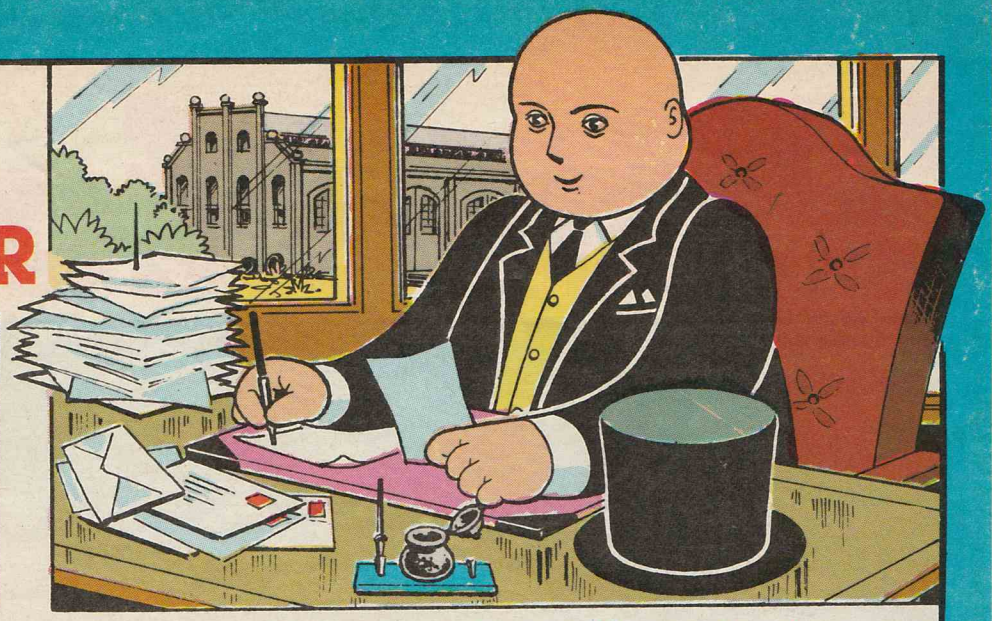
Please make your cheque or postal order payable to Marvel Comics Ltd.

See Thomas, Percy and James's GERBER FRUIT DRINK PACKS for details of a **£1 DISCOUNT OFFER!** In the shops now!

COLOURING TIME!

**Sir Topham Hatt's brand new calendar's here,
Colour this scene at the start of the year!**

Write to the FAT CONTROLLER



Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas – or any of the other engines? Then why not write to me at the address below? I should be so very pleased to hear from you!

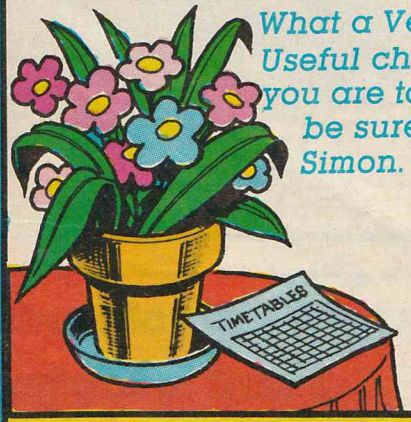
STAR LETTER!

Dear Fat Controller,
I like being a ticket collector. I use old pages from a calendar. We line the kitchen chairs up and I take Mummy and our baby Edward for rides.
Love, **Christopher**, aged 3.

Ticket collecting, as you know, is a very important job indeed, Christopher, and I am glad to hear you have been practising.
Christopher wins a set of **Thomas vinyl stickers**, from *Scorpio Products International Ltd.*

SCHOOL CHORES!

Dear Fat Controller,
I go to school and today I had to mop the floor.
Lots of love, **Simon**, 6.



What a Very Useful chap you are to be sure, Simon.

PLAYSCHOOL PICTURES!

Dear Fat Controller,
I like painting pictures at playschool. I would like to ask, how often do Thomas and his friends need painting to keep their coats clean and shiny?
From **James**, aged 4. Membership number 4038.

My engines are generally painted once a year. Whenever they are damaged in accidents they are repainted straight away.

CLEVER GRANDAD!

Dear Fat Controller,
My grandad is very clever. He makes birthday cakes in the shape of Thomas and his friends. When he has finished they look so nice it is a shame to cut them up.
Love from **Amy Ward**, aged 1½.

I am quite fond of cooking myself, you know. My apple pies are extremely good, though I say so myself.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Our best birthday greetings go to:

Bradley Cousins, Allan Snowball, Matthew Warmington, Darrell Beal, Mark Baker (7524), Martin Fitzgerald (19913), Stewart Kelly (771), Thomas Dunn, Michael Ford, James Roberto (4038), Michael Gibbins (1904), Toby Lyons, Michael John Griffiths (826), Martyn Chrystie, Alexander Enstone, Nicholas Lindsay (19421), Mark Whitlock (4820), David Holroyd (17202), Charles Bailey, David Black, Nicholas Lee, Michael Coleman, Aaron Davies (0567), Thomas Whitbrook, Luke Casbon, Duncan Bonney, Daniel Benjamin, Matthew Reading and M Clark.

Many happy returns to you all!

If you'd like a birthday mention, just send details on a postcard please, at least **8 weeks in advance**. I cannot promise to print every birthday I receive, but I will do my best.

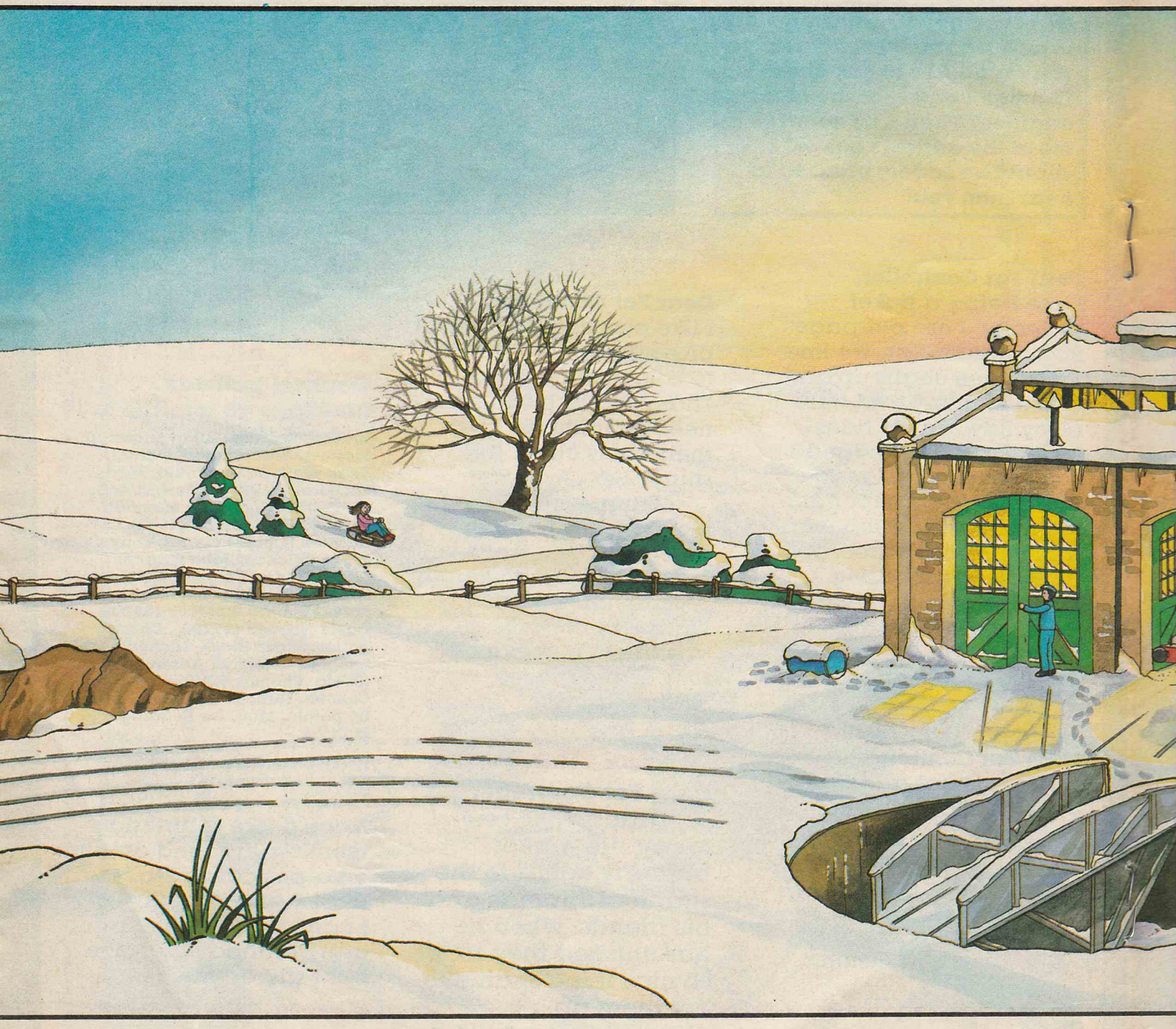
Yours,

Sir Topham Hatt.

the Fat Controller.

Send your letters to: The Island of Sodor, c/o Marvel Comics Ltd, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.

Time for a re



How many engines can you see?

Do you know their names?

What time of day is it?

What do you think the man is doing?

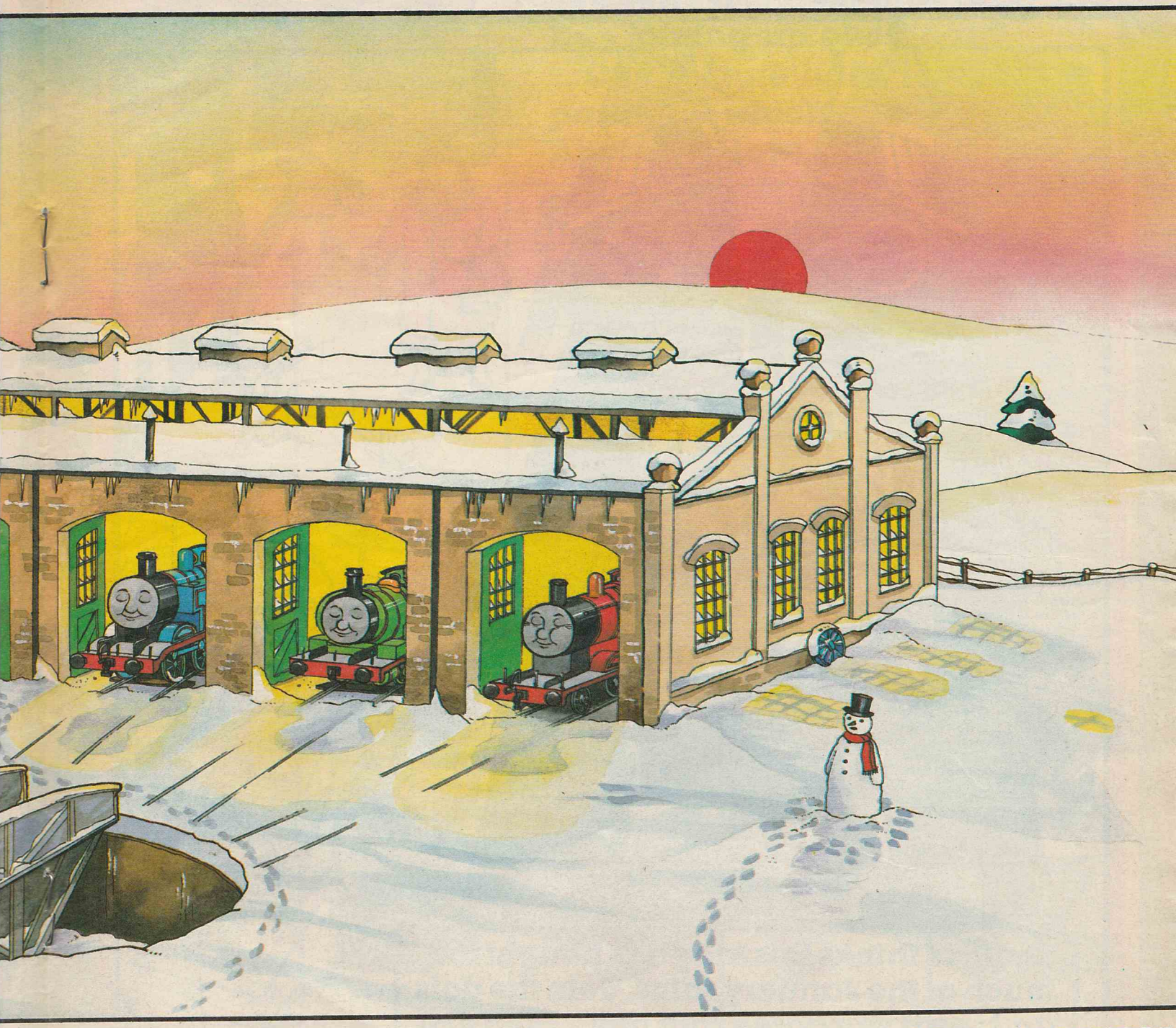
What colour is the

Point to the girl sle

What are hanging

What is the turntal

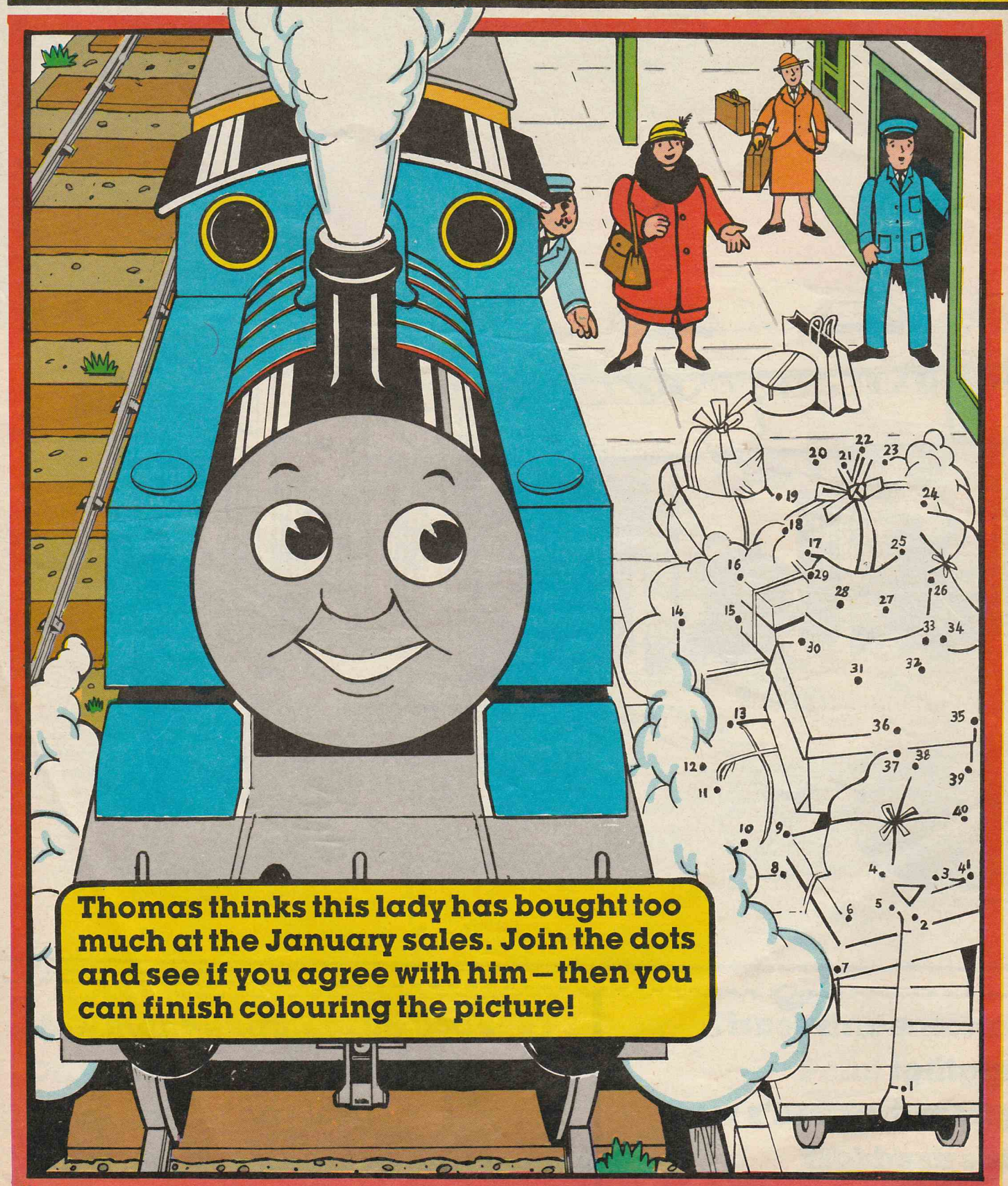
rest!



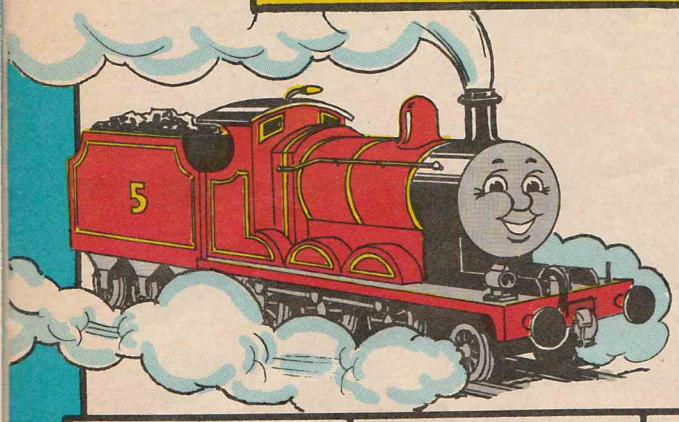
is the snowman's scarf?
girl sledging!
nging from the shed's roof?
urntable used for?

Next: A Four-Part Thomas Game to collect! The mural will continue in issue 38!

JOIN THE DOTS!

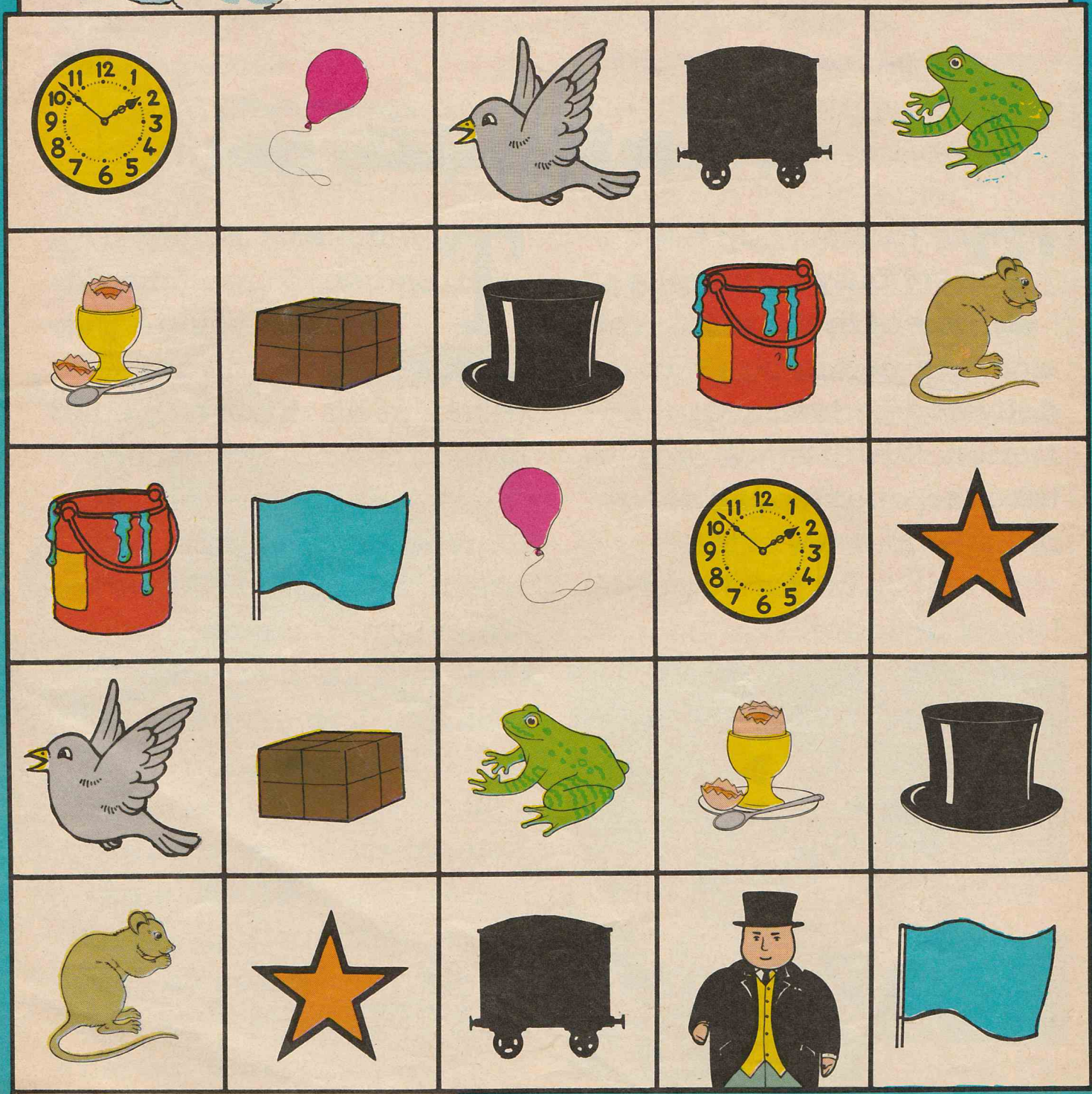


PUZZLE TIME!



Look at all the pictures below – there are 2 of each one. Can you take a pencil and draw a line joining up each pair?

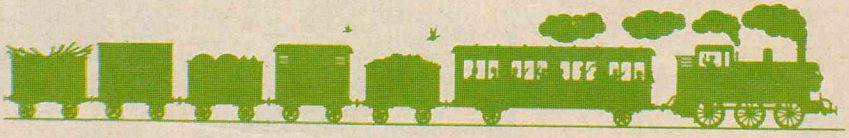
One picture hasn't got a partner – which one is it? Answer below!



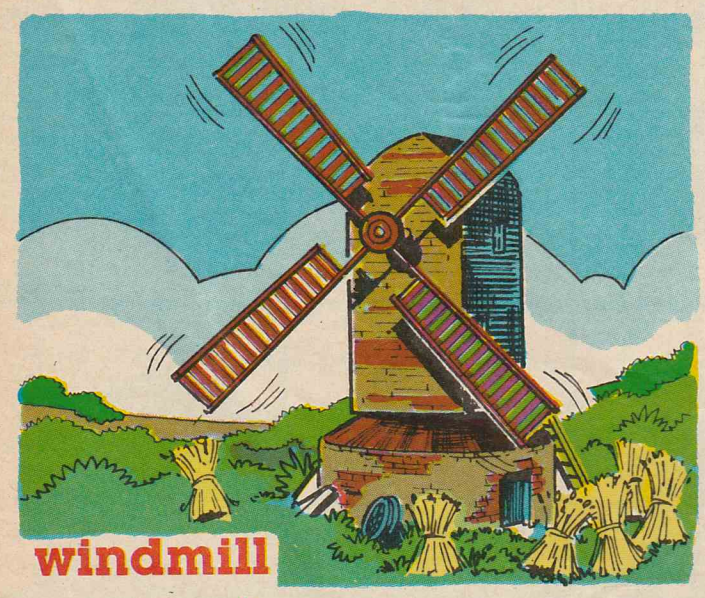
There is only one Fat Controller

A read aloud story!

Edward and the Miller



The farmers had been very busy cutting the wheat in the fields. This was then tied in bales, and delivered by tractor to the station. Edward's job was to take the wheat to the old miller who lived in the windmill on the far side of the Island of Sodor.



windmill

The miller was very pleased to see Edward.

"What do you do with all this wheat?" Edward asked, as his driver helped to unload the bales of wheat.

The miller explained. "Why, I thresh the grain from the wheat, of course," he said. "Then I grind the grain into flour and use it to bake delicious home-made bread to sell in the shops."

"It must be very exciting being a miller," said Edward.

"It is," replied the miller. "But it gets lonely, living so far out here. There's no one to see and no one to talk to. Apart from you and the man

who comes to collect the bread, no one comes to my windmill, Edward."

The miller sounded sad. Edward felt sorry for him. He asked his driver if they could help.

"We could try, Edward," said his driver. "What do you have in mind?"

Edward told the miller to bake lots of loaves of bread. "You may have some unexpected guests visiting your windmill soon," he said, with a smile.

When Edward got back to the station, his driver told all the people that there was a special party being held at the windmill

"You're all invited," he said. "And the Fat Controller is the guest of honour."

The Fat Controller was very pleased, especially when Edward's driver explained about the lonely miller. "What a good idea, Edward," he said.

Coaches were coupled to Edward and everyone got on. Edward puffed along the line back to the windmill

The miller was very surprised to see so many people. The passengers queued up to taste his hot bread and butter. They all agreed it was the best they had ever had.

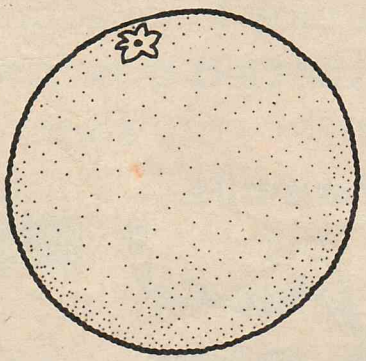
"We must come here once a week and buy some loaves while they're hot," they said.

Edward was pleased. "Now the miller will always have someone to talk to," he said.

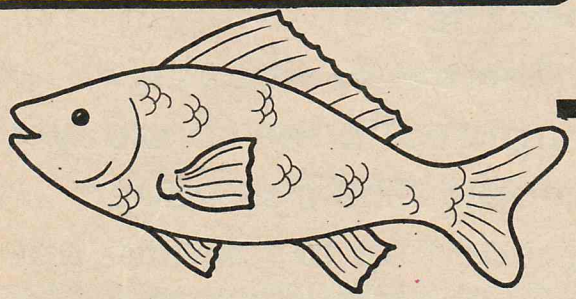
THE END

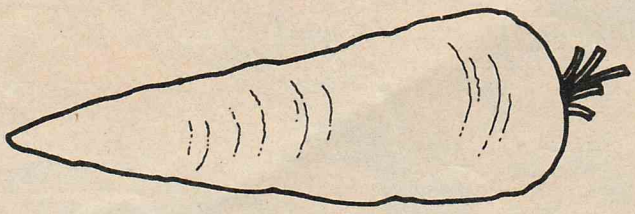
Bill and Ben's ORANGE page!

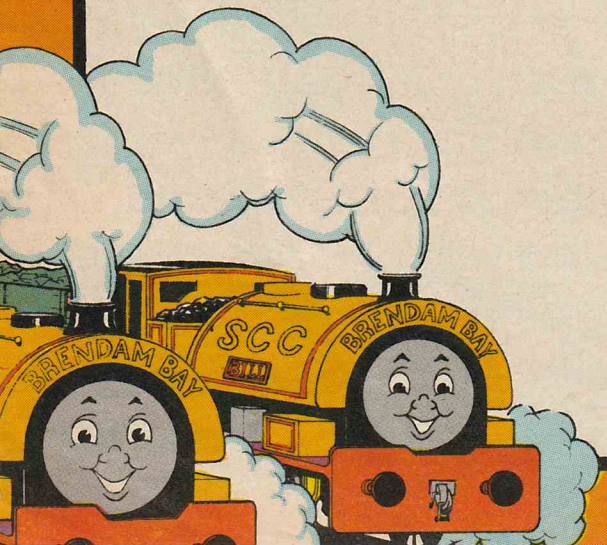
Look at these pictures. Can you pick out their names from the box below? Label each picture and then colour each one – orange!



goldfish carrot
orange sock







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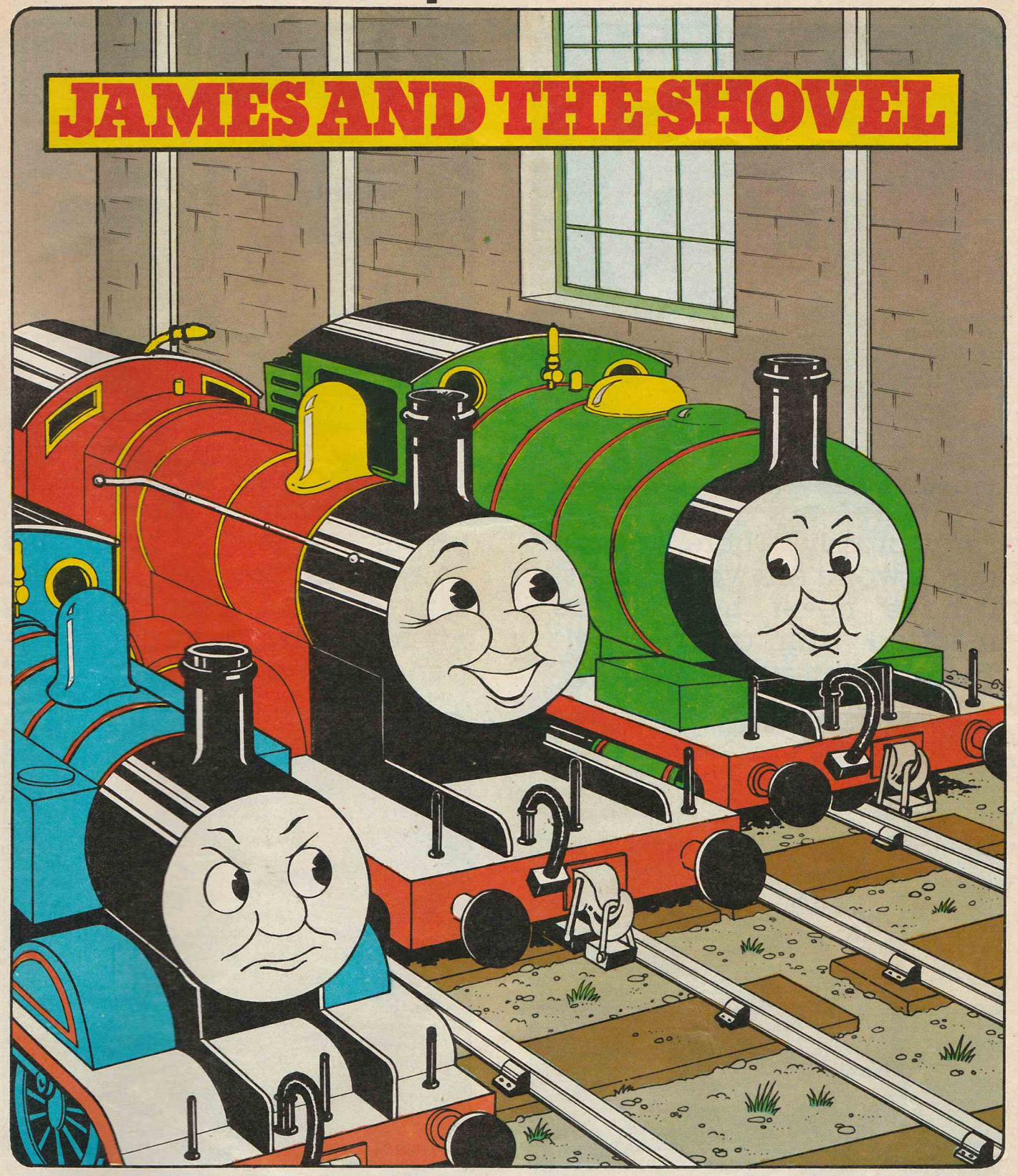
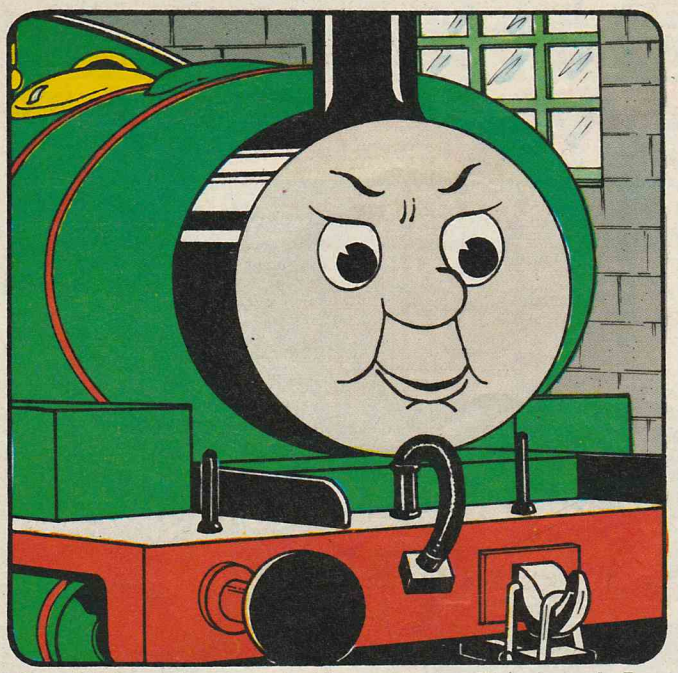
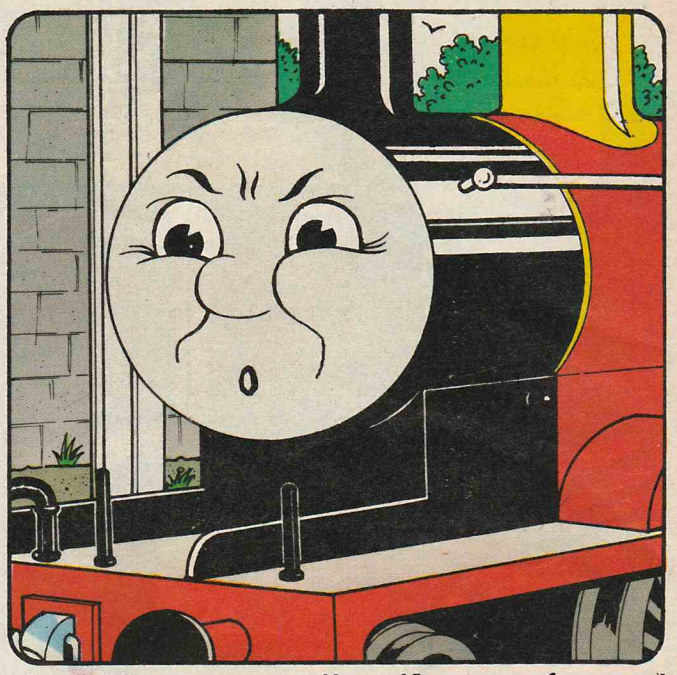


1. James liked to think of himself as a very splendid engine. "I really am most important," he would say. "That's why the Fat Controller paints me red!"

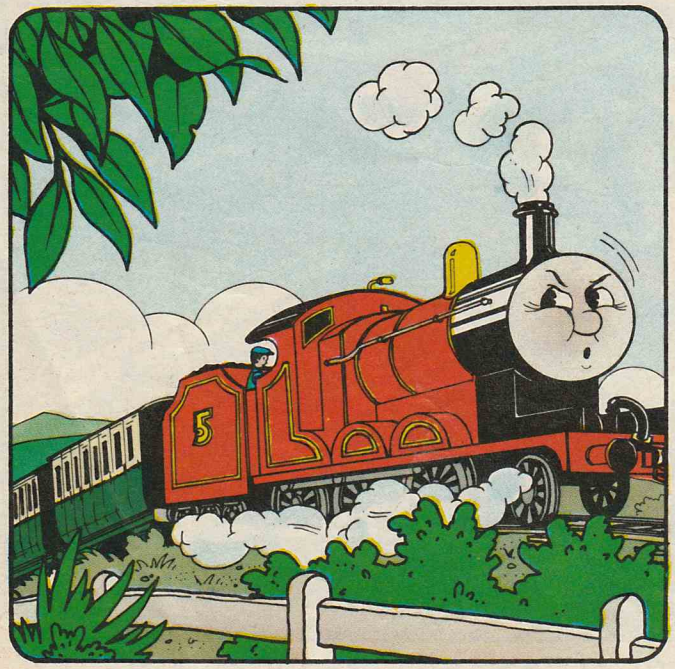
2. "I do as much work as Gordon and Henry, and I'm not as big," he puffed. "I **never** get tired or run out of steam, like little Percy did in the yard!"



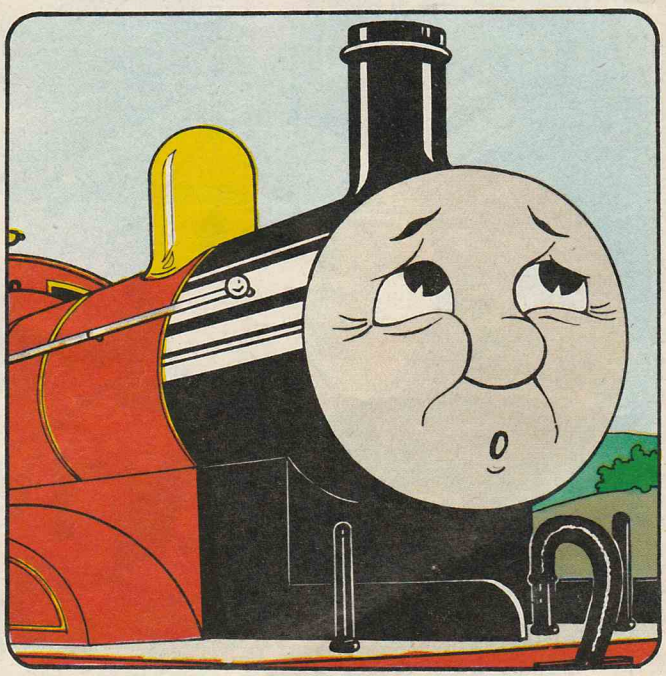
3. "That's not fair," said Percy crossly. "There was too much work! Anyway, at least I have never had to be mended with a **bootlace!**" The other engines laughed.



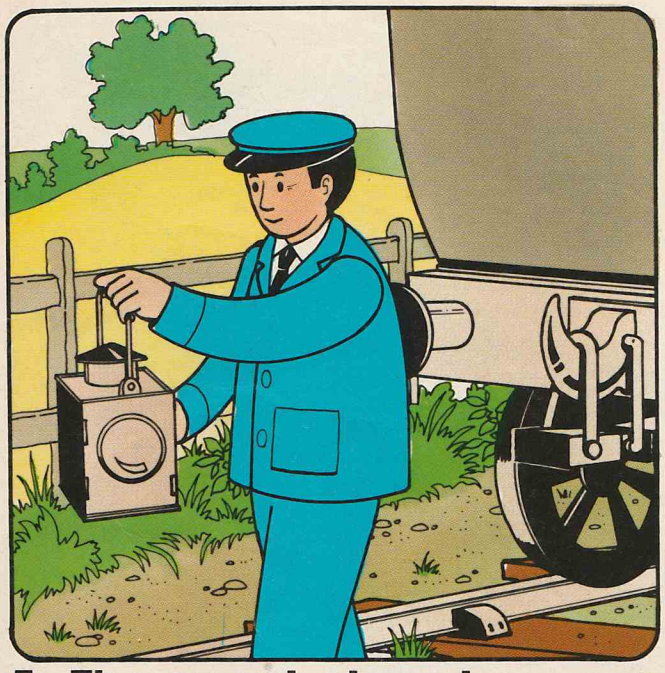
4. "Why can't they forget about that?" grumbled James, as the men coupled him to his coaches. "It wasn't my fault, and anyway, it happened before Percy was here!"



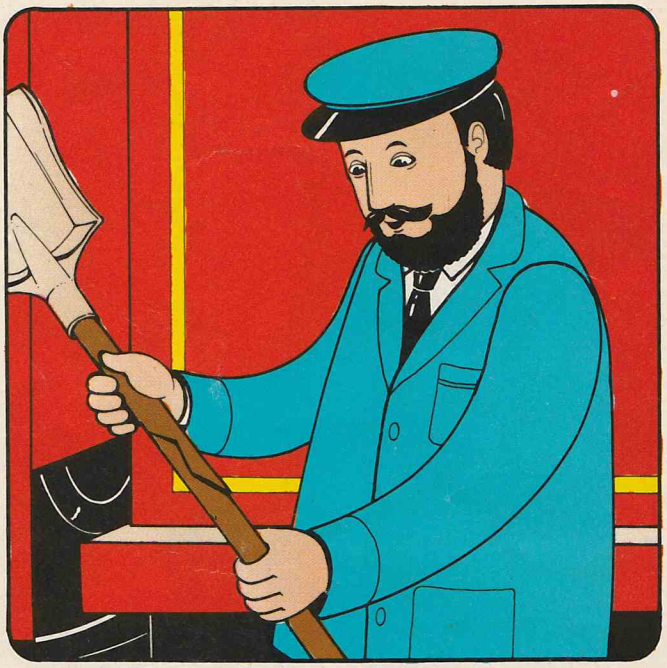
5. "Come along, come along," he puffed crossly to his coaches. They hurried along and soon they were climbing up Gordon's hill. Then something happened.



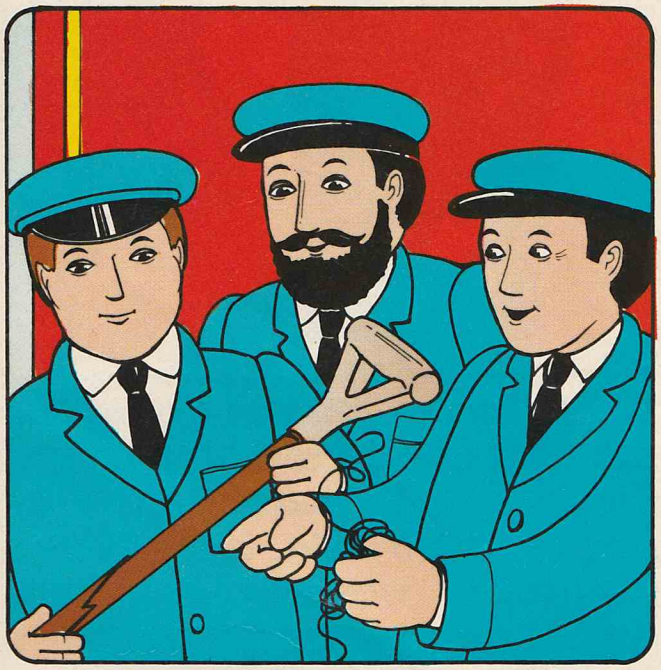
6. James began to feel very tired. "Oh dear, oh dear," he sighed. "I'm losing all my puff!" He went slower and slower and then he stopped altogether. He had no steam!



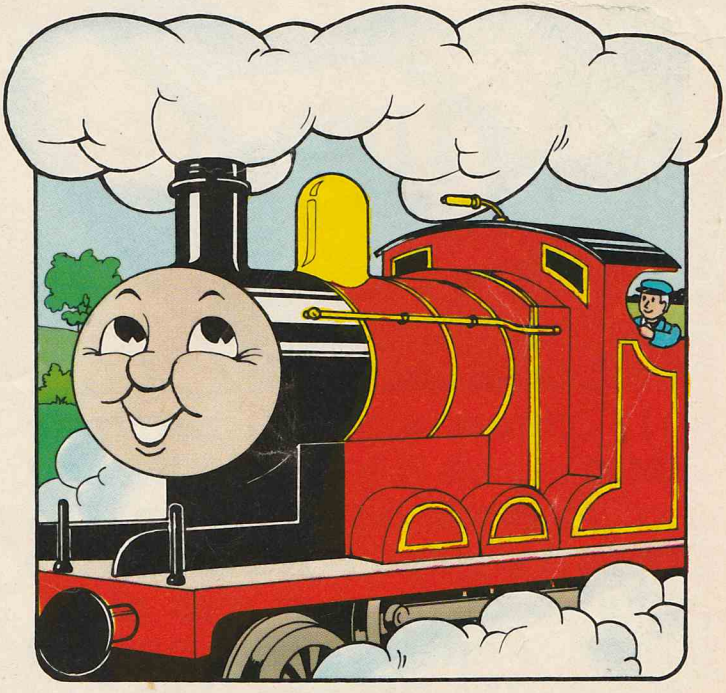
7. The guard placed a warning light on the track. Then he went to the front of the train. "What is wrong?" he asked. "Why have we stopped half way up the hill?"



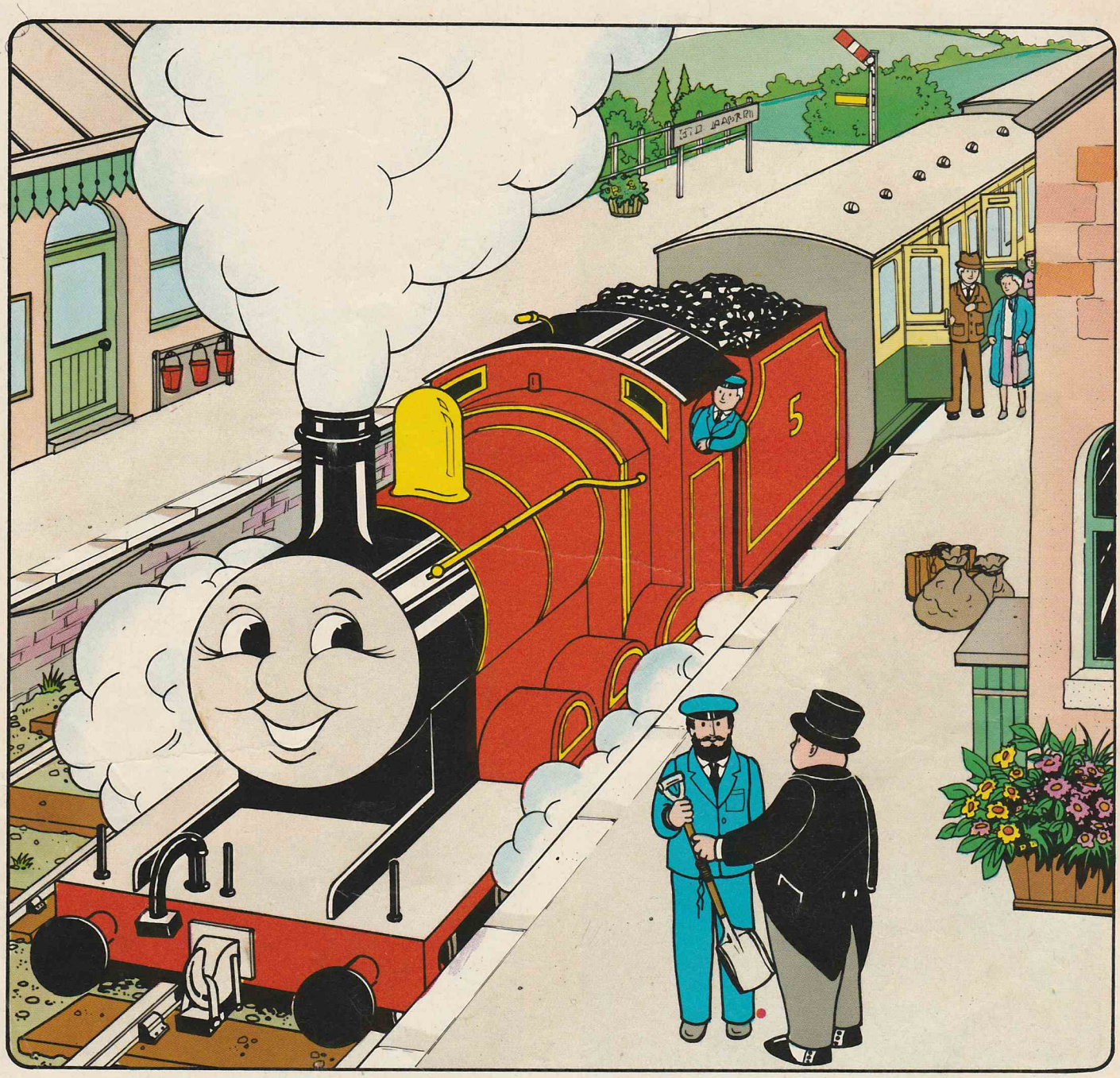
8. "It's my shovel," said the Fireman. "The handle has cracked. It's too weak to hold any coal. I can't keep James's fire burning, if I can't shovel the coal in."



9. "Maybe we can fix it," said the Driver. "I have some string." "I have some too," said the Guard. "I wouldn't want to have to ask for a bootlace again!"



10. The Driver gave the string to the Fireman who wrapped it around the handle of the shovel. "That should do it," he said. James was glad to get his steam back.



11. James was too heavy to start up on the hill. So he had to go back down again. The guard walked back along the line to be sure it was clear. Then James slowly backed down. The Fireman shovelled on extra coal, to make his fire nice and hot. "How does that feel, James?" asked his Driver. "It feels lovely," whistled James.

12. Then James went over the hill and continued on his way. Some of the passengers were angry to be late, but the Fat Controller wasn't cross. "You did a good job," he told the Fireman. "I shall get you a new shovel and a spare one, too." But that night in the shed, Percy teased, "Who never runs out of steam, James?"

THE END